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HITCHIN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending

DECEMBER 31st, 1947

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS

Medical Officer of Health:

NORMAN MACFADYEN, M.B., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

123 Norton Way, Letchworth
(Phone: Letchworth 12)

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

SAMUEL T. GUNNING, Cert. S.I.E.B., F.S.I.A.

Additional Inspector:

ROBERT B. BOLT, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., M.S.I.A.

Council Offices,
21 Bancroft, Hitchin
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WM. E. POTTER, Clerk to the Council.

HITCHIN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the year ended 31st DECEMBER 1947

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this, my thirty-third - and possibly my last - Annual Report. It is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, and outlines the activities of the department and the general health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year ended December 31st 1947.

Section A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the District

Area (in acres)	82,559
Residential Population (Registrar-General's figure)...	21,140
Number of Assessments	7,080
Rateable Value	£104,154
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£416. 9. 9d.
Number of parishes in district..	34

The population figures as given by the Registrar-General (mid-year) show an increase of 430 on the year.

Vital Statistics

Births

Legitimate	- Male, 195; Female, 191)	Total, 398
Illegitimate	- Male, 5; Female, 7)	

Birth-rate, 18.8, compared with 20.5 for England and Wales.

Deaths

Male, 115; Female, 120.	Total, 235.	Death-rate, 11.00.
England and Wales	"	" 12.00

Deaths of Infants under one year

Legitimate	- Male, 5; Female, 3	}	Total, 9
Illegitimate	- Male, 1; Female, 0		

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 births) = 22.6

" " " England and Wales = 41.0

Still Births

Legitimate	- Male, 3; Female, 2	}	Total, 6
Illegitimate	- Male, 1; Female, 0		

Still birth-rate = .28

" " " England and Wales = .50

The principal causes of death were as follows:-

Disease of circulatory system	...	96
" " respiratory	" ...	28
Congenital defect and prematurity		10
Tuberculosis ..	... ..	7
Poliomyelitis .	... ..	1

There were only three deaths from road accidents, and none from measles, whooping cough, enteritis or the ordinary infectious diseases.

The statistical figures for this year require little comment, except that they are good and imply a stationary population, which however, is getting older. This conclusion is also borne out by analysis of the mortality figures.

Infectious Diseases notified

Chickenpox	...	...	...	...	48
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	5
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	3
Infective Hepatitis	..	...	...	...	3
Measles ..	...	...	...	...	55
Pneumonia.	...	...	...	...	8
Poliomyelitis	..	...	...	...	6
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever ..	...	...	...	...	37 (3 not confirmed)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	17
Whooping Cough .	...	...	...	...	40

The Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases were treated at the North Herts. Isolation Hospital, which is managed by the North Herts. (Joint) Hospital Board.

The outbreak of poliomyelitis during the summer of the year was effectively dealt with. All patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital. This disease became epidemic during the year, though occasional cases occur every year. The majority of the cases are slight, but those in which paralysis occurs may be tragic in result. More fatal cases occur in adults than in young people - that is why the term "infantile paralysis" is so deceptive and should be abandoned. Once more the lesson is taught that any feverish "chill" should be treated seriously and the patient go to bed at once and summon medical aid.

Infectious disease as a cause of death is negligible, and the general health continues good.

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Diphtheria Immunisation

This work is carried out by the County Council. According to records received, the number of immunisations carried out during the year is 271 against 180 for the previous year.

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Section B

General Provision of Health Services

1. Public Health Officials

(a) Medical

The Medical Officer of Health is a part-time Officer holding a Diploma in Public Health. He is also Medical Officer of Health for Hitchin Urban and Royston Urban Districts, and Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital.

(b) Sanitary

The Senior Sanitary Inspector holds the Certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board (London) 1920, including the qualification as an Inspector of Meat and other foods.

The Additional Sanitary Inspector holds the Certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination (Joint) Board.

(c) Clerical - Miss D. M. Bland.

Laboratory Facilities, Hospital Facilities etc.

The arrangements with reference to these services continue as in former years and are satisfactory. The establishment of a Public Health Laboratory at Luton has proved of value to this district.

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## Section C

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

#### Water Supplies

Having regard to the geographical aspect of this large Rural District, I am satisfied that the water supply generally is satisfactory, both as to quality and quantity, subject to the following observations -

1. The Ashwell supply, though good in quality gives cause for concern as to quantity.
2. The Peter's Green supply is giving unsatisfactory Bacteriological results.

Proposals are under consideration to remedy both these defects.

It would appear that by reason of the continued necessity for national economy and the employment of labour on more urgent housing needs, the much needed extensions of water mains referred to in my last report have not yet been carried out. There is however, some satisfaction to be gained from the fact that a comprehensive system of water sampling - the desirability for which became apparent - was put into operation during the year. Very useful information was obtained from the examination of the results.

#### Table of Results - Water Analysis

Two tables of sampling are submitted herewith -

- I. Taken by the Council's Engineer & Surveyor to test the quality of the water delivered from the Pumping Stations into the mains.
- II. Taken by the Public Health Department to test the quality of the water delivered to the consumer.

Table I.

| Pumping Station | Total | Raw Water |      | Treated Water |      |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|------|---------------|------|
|                 |       | Pass      | Fail | Pass          | Fail |
| Ashwell         | 6     | 2         | 3    | 1             | -    |
| Codicote        | 4     | 4         | -    | -             | -    |
| King's Walden   | 7     | 4         | -    | 3             | -    |
| Peter's Green   | 4     | 3         | 1    | -             | -    |
| Pirton          | 7     | 1         | 3    | 3             | -    |
| Wymondley       | 4     | 4         | -    | -             | -    |
| Totals          | 32    | 18        | 7    | 7             | -    |

Table II

| 1. <u>Council Undertakings</u>                  | <u>No. taken</u> | <u>Satis-<br/>factory</u> | <u>Unsatis-<br/>factory</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Offley-Lilley scheme                            | 34               | 27                        | 7                           |
| Hitchin-Braughing                               | 26               | 24                        | 2                           |
| Ashwell                                         | 14               | 13                        | 1                           |
| Codicote                                        | 14               | 12                        | 2                           |
| Wymondley                                       | 11               | 11                        | -                           |
| Pirton                                          | 14               | 14                        | -                           |
| Peter's Green                                   | 9                | 5                         | 4                           |
| 2. <u>Private Undertakings</u>                  |                  |                           |                             |
| Knebworth                                       | 10               | 7                         | 3                           |
| Bygrave                                         | 5                | 4                         | 1                           |
| Newnham                                         | 3                | 2                         | 1                           |
| 3. <u>Bulk Supplies</u>                         |                  |                           |                             |
| Hitchin U.D. (for Ickleford)                    | 5                | 3                         | 2                           |
| Stevenage U.D. (for Graveley<br>& Todd's Green) | 11               | 9                         | 2                           |
| Hertford R.D. (for Shephall)                    | 5                | 5                         | -                           |
| 4. <u>Other Sources</u>                         |                  |                           |                             |
| Hoxton Pump                                     | 4                | 1                         | 3                           |
| Langley                                         | 4                | 1                         | 3                           |
| Radwell                                         | 3                | 3                         | -                           |
| Newnham (Council cotts.)                        | 7                | 1                         | 6                           |
| Special samples (private<br>supplies)           | 4                | -                         | 4                           |
|                                                 | 183              | 142                       | 41                          |

Necessary immediate action was taken in all cases where unsatisfactory results were obtained. This consisted in public notices supported by loud speaker vans outlining temporary safety measures, flushing of mains and other remedial work. As an additional safeguard, chlorination plants are available for operation in all pumping stations.

The water of the district is not liable to have plumbosolvent action.

I am indebted to the Engineer & Surveyor for particulars of the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains. They are extracted from a table prepared by his department in February 1947. In this extract the population is the estimated for the parish, and the number of houses given is the total for the parish. Therefore, the difference between the number of dwelling houses supplied from mains direct and from standpipes, and the total, represents the number of houses in these parishes supplied from other sources.

| <u>Water Supplies - from mains</u> |                          |                         |                      |                                     |                           |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Scheme</u>                      | <u>Parishes supplied</u> | <u>Est. pop-ulation</u> | <u>No. of houses</u> | <u>Supplied by mains into hses.</u> | <u>Sup. by standpipes</u> |
| Offley-Lilley                      | Offley                   | 1500                    | 351                  | 152                                 | 179                       |
|                                    | Lilley                   | 460                     | 122                  | 36                                  | 82                        |
|                                    | King's Walden            | 900                     | 303                  | 39                                  | 225                       |
|                                    | St. Ippollitts           | 1200                    | 365                  | 232                                 | 98                        |
|                                    | Preston                  | 300                     | 62                   | 34                                  | 20                        |
|                                    | St. Paul's Walden        | 1150                    | 297                  | 82                                  | 172                       |
|                                    | Kimpton (part)           | 1080                    | 340                  | 147                                 | 123                       |
| Hitchin-Braughing                  | Barley                   | 550                     | 191                  | 45                                  | 135                       |
|                                    | Barkway                  | 571                     | 182                  | 40                                  | 113                       |
|                                    | Nuthampstead             | 129                     | 39                   | 6                                   | 29                        |
|                                    | Reed                     | 304                     | 67                   | 16                                  | 46                        |
|                                    | Therfield                | 540                     | 164                  | 56                                  | 96                        |
|                                    | Kelshall                 | 141                     | 65                   | 10                                  | 42                        |
|                                    | Sandon                   | 484                     | 159                  | 48                                  | 89                        |
|                                    | Rushden                  | 160                     | 66                   | 29                                  | 30                        |
|                                    | Clothall                 | 145                     | 68                   | 18                                  | 16                        |
|                                    | Weston                   | 931                     | 221                  | 145                                 | 76                        |
|                                    | Wallington               | 125                     | 46                   | 21                                  | 15                        |
| Ashwell                            | Ashwell                  | 1500                    | 387                  | 245                                 | 116                       |
|                                    | Hinxworth                | 230                     | 58                   | 26                                  | 32                        |
| Pirton                             | Pirton                   | 810                     | 248                  | 203                                 | 36                        |
|                                    | Holwell                  | 360                     | 97                   | 66                                  | 20                        |
| Codicote                           | Codicote                 | 2000                    | 473                  | 407                                 | 66                        |



Water Supplies (cont.)

| <u>Scheme</u>                        | <u>Parishes<br/>supplied</u> | <u>Est. pop-<br/>ulation</u> | <u>No. of<br/>houses</u> | <u>Supplied<br/>by mains<br/>into hses.</u> | <u>Sup. by<br/>standpipes</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Peter's<br>Green (pt.<br>of Kington) | Peter's Green                | 170                          | 47                       | 10                                          | 37                            |
| Wymondley                            | Wymondleys                   | 850                          | 237                      | 171                                         | 52                            |
| Knebworth                            | Knebworth                    | 2700                         | 780                      | 780                                         | -                             |
| Bygrave<br>Estate                    | Bygrave                      | 227                          | 98                       | 96                                          | 2                             |
| Newnham<br>(private)                 | Newnham (pt.)                | 180                          | 39                       | 29                                          | 10                            |
| <u>Bulk</u><br>Hitchin U.D.          | Ickleford                    | 1243                         | 278                      | 247                                         | 22                            |
| Stevenage<br>U.D.                    | Graveley                     | 357                          | 95                       | 39                                          | 51                            |
| Hertford<br>R.D.                     | Shephall                     | 420                          | 91                       | 78                                          | 12                            |

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Sewers and Sewerage Disposal

In this matter I cannot do better than reiterate but with greater emphasis, the observations contained in my previous report, that if there is one aspect of the Council's Public Health activities where the shortage of labour and materials is to be deplored more than any other (housing excepted) it is in the matter of the provision of adequate sewers and sewage disposal works.

Schemes on paper submitted for County and Ministerial consideration and schemes in course of preparation cannot be fully appreciated by the ratepayers, who are anxiously awaiting the improved sanitary conditions of which these works are the foundation.

Meanwhile, the maintenance of the existing sewers and sewage disposal works in a workable condition - many of which are old and insufficient in capacity - is causing your Surveyor considerable anxiety.

Public Cleansing Service -  
Refuse Collection and Disposal, Cesspool Emptying and Salvage

Refuse Collection

Notwithstanding the Council's concern regarding this service and the placing of necessary orders early in the year for two new refuse collection vehicles, to facilitate collection and make more efficient this service, the year closed with no improvement in this respect.

With constant care and not infrequent repair of the two old Freighters, and the continued goodwill - coupled with the traditional British grumbling - of the outside staff, a very fair service was maintained. (The first new Dennis vehicle was delivered in March 1948.)

The figures for the year under review are as follows:-

| <u>No. of</u><br><u>Loads</u> | <u>Approx. weight of all</u><br><u>materials collected</u>         | <u>Vehicle mileage</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1747                          | 3171 tons<br>(against 2977 tons<br>collected the<br>previous year) | 24039                  |

Cesspool Emptying

A reflection of the concern expressed in a previous paragraph (Sewers and Sewage Disposal) is the coming into operation during the year of a Cesspool Emptying Service. It is, I feel sure, agreed that the abolition of cesspools by the extension of sewers is sound Public Health, but where such work is delayed for reasons beyond the control of the Local Authority, then that Authority's duty visualises the next best thing.

In March of the year under review the Council obtained delivery of a modern Cesspool Emptying Vehicle, and established a service giving one free emptying per annum for every cesspool with additional emptyings in each financial year, if required, at an agreed rate.

|                                                                   |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of free emptyings given<br>during the Financial Year ..... | 296 |
| Number of other emptyings .....                                   | 74  |

Salvage

Of the 3171 tons of refuse collected, as shown above, 61 tons 8 cwt. was reclaimed and sold as salvage, yielding a

sum of £226.16.10d., made up as follows:-

|                                   | <u>Tons.</u> | <u>Cwts.</u> | <u>Qrs.</u> | <u>Lbs.</u> | <u>£</u> <u>s.</u> <u>d.</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Waste Paper                       | 43           | 18           | 1           | 7           | 195. 6. 5.                   |
| Textiles                          | -            | 11           | 2           | 9           | 7.13. 5.                     |
| Bones                             | -            | 6            | 2           | 14          | 1.18. 1.                     |
| Metals (ferrous<br>& non-ferrous) | 16           | 11           | 2           | 12          | 21.18.11.                    |
| <b>Totals -</b>                   | <b>61</b>    | <b>8</b>     | <b>-</b>    | <b>14</b>   | <b>£226.16.10d.</b>          |

This reveals a considerable reduction on last year's figures, both in tonnage and price per ton obtained - firstly, by reason of the general falling off in salvageable materials and secondly, the price per ton was much reduced consequent on the cessation of baling paper in March 1947.

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### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to your Sanitary Inspectors for the figures contained in this part of the report, from which will be noted the constant vigilance necessary for the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of sanitation.

Total number of Inspections for all purposes ... 3805

Analysed as follows:-

|                                                          |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| For defects under the Housing Acts (inc. R.H.Survey)     | 2146        |
| For defects under the Factory Acts ... ..                | 32          |
| For the prevention of Infectious Disease ... ..          | 124         |
| As to the sanitary condition of Schools and Public Halls | 16          |
| Inspections under the Milk and Dairies Order . ...       | 198         |
| Inspections of slaughter-houses, butchers' shops etc.    | 62          |
| For the prevention of Nuisances .. ...                   | 113         |
| Inspections of drainage, conversions etc. ... ..         | 69          |
| Inspections of water supplies and sampling ... ..        | 27          |
| Supervision of Refuse Collection and Salvage Disposal    | 582         |
| Inspections re Rats and Mice destruction ... ..          | 70          |
| Inspections under Shops Act, 1934. ... ..                | 29          |
| Miscellaneous Inspections .. ...                         | 116         |
| Inspections of Moveable Dwellings ... ..                 | 28          |
| Food & Drugs Act ... ..                                  | 193         |
| <b>Total ... ..</b>                                      | <b>3805</b> |

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Section DHousing

In this, probably the most important (at least during near post-war years) of all Local Authority activities, it is a proud boast to record Hitchin Rural's lead in the North Herts. Housing drive.

Last year I expressed the hope that the building programme then in full swing would gain momentum. The results achieved justify this view. They are as follows:-

New houses erected

|                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| By the Local Authority      |                                    |
| Permanent, Traditional      | - 40                               |
| Pre-fabricated              | - 37 (inc. 31 temp.,               |
| Adaptations and Conversions | 4 Swedish, 2 Aire                  |
| (inc. Nissen Huts)          | - -                                |
| By Private Enterprise       | - 26                               |
| Total                       | - <u>103</u> (against 68 for 1946) |

Good as this record would appear, the need is far from satisfied, as evidenced by the fact that at the close of the year under review there were 1354 applications on the waiting list, while evidence collected as a result of the Survey would support that need.

In this connection, I regret that the Rural Housing Survey which, as previously shown, had made good progress, had to be suspended temporarily at the end of May. Increasing duties in other directions and the deflection of a member of the staff to County duties in connection with the Survey, made this suspension necessary.

Meanwhile, the volume of emergency repair work already noted received necessary attention. Again, the much to be desired large scale repairs and works of improvement await the more favourable availability of materials and labour.

A summary of the Survey to May 31st is as follows:-

| <u>No. of houses<br/>inspected</u> | <u>Classification</u> |      |     |     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|-----|-----|
|                                    | 1.                    | 2.   | 3.  | 4.  |
| 3566                               | 969                   | 1386 | 927 | 284 |



## Sanitary Improvements

Again the restrictive hand of Licensing Control, which doubtless made possible the Council's not unenviable position in the provision of new dwellings, has held in check many otherwise very desirable sanitary improvements.

However, in order to provide improved accommodation for agricultural workers in existing cottages, or otherwise to remove conditions likely to cause a nuisance, some 64 sanitary improvements have been possible.

There were no Abatement Notices outstanding at December 31st.

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## Section E

### Inspection and Supervision of food

a. Milk. Despite the uncertainty occasioned by the delay in announcing the "appointed day" when the supervision of Milk Production passes to the control of the Ministry of Agriculture, a fair measure of supervisory, advisory and inspectorial work was carried out.

The number of Registered Producers and/or Producer Retailers on your Register at December 31, 1947, was 152. Of these, 33 are licensed for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk and 19 for the sale of milk produced under the designation "Accredited".

In addition, there are 29 registered as retailers only, including 19 retailers whose premises are situated in adjoining districts.

The standard of milk produced is reflected in the results obtained by analysis, as summarised on the following page -

Designated and School Milks

| <u>Sampling Authority</u> | <u>Satisfied<br/>prescribed<br/>tests</u> | <u>Failed to<br/>satisfy<br/>pres.tests</u> | <u>Total no.<br/>of samples<br/>taken</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Herts.County Council      | 202                                       | 88                                          | 290                                       |
| Other Authorities         | 34                                        | 24                                          | 58                                        |
| TOTAL -                   | 236                                       | 112                                         | 348                                       |

Ungraded Milk

| <u>Sampling Authority</u> | <u>Satisfied<br/>standard<br/>tests.</u> | <u>Failed to<br/>satisfy<br/>stan.tests.</u> | <u>Total no.<br/>of samples<br/>taken.</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Hitchin R.D.C.            | 16                                       | 11                                           | 27                                         |
| Other Authorities         | 32                                       | 24                                           | 56                                         |
| TOTAL -                   | 48                                       | 35                                           | 83                                         |

Tests for T.B. Bacilli in milk other than T.T.

| <u>Sampling Authority</u> | <u>No evid-<br/>ence of<br/>T.B.</u> | <u>Positive</u> | <u>Incon-<br/>clusive</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Herts.County Council      | 149                                  | 6               | 10                        | 165          |
| Other Authorities         | 59                                   | 1               | 2                         | 62           |
| TOTAL -                   | 208                                  | 7               | 12                        | 227          |

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Meat and Other Foods

The amount of meat and other foods condemned as unfit for human consumption is again relatively small, and I am pleased to report some improvement in the method of delivery to the retail shops - a matter to which reference was made in my last report.

All the Butchers' shops and premises in the district - 15 in number - were regularly inspected. A satisfactory standard of cleanliness was maintained.

Other food shops and cafes received attention, although I am hopeful that a much more detailed inspection of these premises will be possible.

Clinical and chemical examination of milk and other foodstuffs, and sampling under the Food & Drugs Act, are carried out by the County Council.

#### Food Condemned

|                       | <u>Cwts.</u> | <u>Qrs.</u> | <u>Lbs.</u> | <u>Ozs.</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u>Meat Condemned</u> |              |             |             |             |

|               |   |   |    |    |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|
| Imported Beef | 2 | 3 | 13 | -- |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|

#### Diverted for Manufacture

|               |   |   |    |    |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|
| Imported Lamb | - | - | 26 | -- |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|

#### Home-killed Meat Condemned

|        |   |   |    |    |
|--------|---|---|----|----|
| Mutton | - | - | 19 | -- |
| Pork   | - | - | 3  | 8  |

#### Fruit Condemned

|         |   |   |    |    |
|---------|---|---|----|----|
| Oranges | - | 1 | 22 | -- |
|---------|---|---|----|----|

#### Other Foods Condemned

|                    |   |   |    |    |
|--------------------|---|---|----|----|
| Cheese             | - | - | 25 | -- |
| Tinned Milk        | - | 1 | 27 | 5  |
| Other tinned goods | - | 1 | 8  | 7  |

|                                  |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Total weight of food condemned - | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|

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#### Shops Act 1934

All shops, of which there are just under 200, which come under the provisions of the Act, received necessary attention concerning matters referred to the Local Authority by the Shops Act.

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Factories Act

For the first time since the first year of the war, a separate report in the form required is to be supplied to the Home Office, relating to action under the provisions of the Factory Act with special reference to Parts I and VIII of the Act, which are administered by the District Council. These items refer to want of cleanliness, overcrowding, unreasonable temperature, inadequate ventilation, inefficient drainage of floors, no sanitary conveniences.

The Table submitted herewith is taken from that report -



Factories Act 19371. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

| Premises                                                                                       | No. on<br>Reg-<br>ister | Number of - |                    |                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|                                                                                                |                         | Inspections | Written<br>notices | Occupiers<br>prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in<br>which Secs.1,2,<br>3,4 and 6 are to<br>be enforced by<br>Local Authorities | 85                      | 8           | 2                  | Nil                     |
| (ii) Factories not<br>inc. in (i) in<br>which Sec.7 is<br>enforced by the<br>Local Authority   | 12                      | 24          | 6                  | Nil                     |
| (iii) Other prems. in<br>which Sec.7 is<br>enforced by the<br>Local Authority                  | -                       | Nil         | Nil                | Nil                     |
| Total -                                                                                        | 97                      | 32          | 8                  | Nil                     |

## 2. Cases in which Defects were found

| Particulars                       | No. of cases in which defects found |          |                    |                    | No. pro-<br>secutions |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
|                                   | Found                               | Remedied | To H.M.<br>Inspec. | By H.M.<br>Inspec. |                       |
| Want of cleanliness               | 5                                   | 5        | Nil                | -                  | Nil                   |
| Overcrowding                      | Nil                                 | -        | Nil                | -                  | Nil                   |
| Unreasonable temp.                | Nil                                 | -        | Nil                | -                  | Nil                   |
| Inadequate ventil.                | Nil                                 | -        | Nil                | -                  | Nil                   |
| Ineffective drainage<br>of floors | 1                                   | 1        | Nil                | -                  | Nil                   |
| Sanitary Conveniences             |                                     |          |                    |                    |                       |
| (a) Insufficient                  | 3                                   | 4        |                    | 1                  | Nil                   |
| (b) Unsuitable or<br>defective    | 2                                   | 3        |                    | 1                  | Nil                   |
| (c) Not sep. for sexes            | 2                                   | 4        |                    | 2                  | Nil                   |
| Other offences<br>against the Act | -                                   | -        |                    | -                  |                       |
| Total -                           | 13                                  | 17       | Nil                | 4                  | Nil                   |

Tuberculosis Regulations

Table of New Cases and Mortality for the year.

| Age Periods | New Cases   |    |                 |    | Deaths      |    |                 |    |
|-------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
|             | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    |
|             | M.          | F. | M.              | F. | M.          | F. | M.              | F. |
| 0- 1        | -           | -  | -               | -  | -           | -  | -               | -  |
| 1- 5        | -           | -  | -               | -  | -           | -  | -               | -  |
| 5-15        | 1           | -  | 2               | 2  | -           | -  | -               | -  |
| 15-25       | 1           | -  | 1               | -  | -           | 1  | -               | -  |
| 25-35       | 3           | 3  | -               | -  | -           | 1  | -               | -  |
| 35-45       | -           | 1  | -               | -  | -           | -  | -               | -  |
| 45-55       | 1           | 1  | -               | -  | 1           | 1  | -               | -  |
| 55-65       | -           | -  | -               | 1  | -           | -  | -               | -  |
| and over    | -           | -  | -               | -  | -           | -  | -               | -  |
| Totals      | 6           | 5  | 3               | 3  | 1           | 3  | -               | -  |

The above figures show 17 new cases of Tuberculosis reported during the year under review, as against 12 for the year 1946. Six patients suffering from Tuberculosis were reported cured.

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## Conclusion and Finale

During my thirty-three years as Medical Officer of Health and assistant School Medical Officer, owing to the constant co-operation of the Council, its Officials, and improvements in Public Health facilities, there has been a steady increase in the health of the population, and amenities for the fuller enjoyment of life have become greater.

Housing has always been to the fore in our District, and though much remains to be done, we have been told that our progress has exceeded that of most Rural Districts.

This District held out an encouraging and fostering hand to the embryonic Letchworth, and so took a prominent part in what promises to become a remarkable step forward in the social life of our Country in many directions.

I imagine that residence in our future villages will be much sought after and will require careful regulating, although the idea of planning is repugnant to many people. This planning must come from the needs of the people themselves, and I hope that the actual contact of the people with the machinery of Local Government will always be direct and never allowed to be lost.

My thanks, as always, are given to the Council, Clerk, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor for the devoted work which has always been so freely given in the battle for decent living conditions, which is so necessary.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

Signed:           NORMAN MACFADYEN

Medical Officer of Health

